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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/034,678	12/27/2001	William R. Dietel	Piling-1	1831

7590 05/21/2003

C. James Bushman
BROWNING BUSHMAN, P.C.
Suite 1800
5718 Wesheimer
Houston, TX 77057

EXAMINER

CHUKWURAH, NATHANIEL C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3721	B

DATE MAILED: 05/21/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/034,678	DIETEL, WILLIAM R.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nathaniel C. Chukwurah	3721	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2001.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 4 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3,5-7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by J.W.Perry (3,335,804).

Perry discloses an apparatus for installing a workpiece at a location underneath a surface comprising: an elongated track member (60 guiding frame) having a first end ("F" as designated in fig. 1) positionable proximate the surface and a second end (see upper portion of guiding frame) positionable distal to the surface; a carriage (114) mounted on the track, a hammer assembly (150), a hydraulic actuator (142) to compressively urge the carriage toward the first end of the track. Although Perry does not clearly show an operator to effect reciprocation, Perry's apparatus is deemed to inherently include an operator or means to effect reciprocation.

Perry further discloses a hammerhead percussively operated (col. 4, line 51); a hydraulic hammer (140), a support (56 arm) to hold the track member, a footer (66) at first end. For claim 6, see actuator rejection as set forth above and see also Figure 1 of Perry.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over J.W.Perry (3,335,804) in view of Younes (4,925,159).

Perry lacks pivotable footer. However, Younes discloses similar apparatus including a pivotable footer (30, 31 outriggers) and a support (23) in a predetermined position and operable to vary the attitude of track member. In view of the teachings of Younes, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to provide the apparatus of Perry with a pivotabe footer (outriggers) in order to support vertical orientation of the track member (col. 3, lines 58-60).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 4 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Austin et al. (5,941,320),

Geldner (5,709,277),

Jenne (5,492,184),

Kinnan (5,449,046),

England (5,388,653),

McDowell et al. (5,375,664),

Summers (5,145,286),

Harberer (5,018,588),

Dunn (4,953,638),

Cherrington et al. (4,679,637),

Vance (4,436,455),

Watson (4,164,082),

Stormon (4,099,579),

Ssayama (3,973,409),

Schnabel, Jr. (3,807,182),

G.Lagerstrom (3,436,923), and

Dziedzic (Re. 32,076), all disclose similar apparatus.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathaniel C. Chukwurah whose telephone number is (703) 308-6385. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00AM-2:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi Rada can be reached on (703) 308-2187. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3579 for regular communications and (703) 308-7769 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.

Nc
April 23, 2003



SCOTT A. SMITH
PRIMARY EXAMINER